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*Chron*

FBIS-0280/86  
28 August 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

FROM: [redacted]  
Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

SUBJECT: Open Source Information Exchange (OSIX)

REFERENCE: Memo fm Chairman/IHC, dtd 22 Aug 86, Same Subject

1. Referenced memorandum, attached, documents the main conclusions of an IHC offsite held earlier this year. Fundamentally, implementation of [redacted] will be carried out under the auspices of the IHC. Not addressed in the memorandum, but understood among Eloise Page, [redacted] and me is that FBIS will take the lead in the requirements validation and technical definition of the OSIX.

2. This subject has moved from the talking stage with the transfer of \$190K (FY 86) to FBIS from the ICS. As discussed with ADDS&T on 25 August, FBIS will accept no more responsibility than can be fulfilled, recognizing FBIS Modernization has a priority call on our resources.

3. I have discussed this with [redacted] who understands the larger FBIS equities in this issue and who supports our approach. We will keep him and others informed as this develops.

4. [redacted] who will lead the definition study and I will attend the 3 September meeting.

Attachment



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DDS&T/FBIS [redacted] (28 Aug 86)

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Director, CIA/FBIS  
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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
Intelligence Information Handling Committee  
WASHINGTON, DC 20505

ICS 86-6723  
22 August 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution

SUBJECT: Developing the Open Source Information Exchange (OSIX)

1. The action proposals of the Executive Steering Group for the Exploitation of Overt Information, as approved in concept by the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, assigns to the DCI's Intelligence Information Handling Committee (IHC) responsibility for development of a phased implementation plan for recommended improvements. The plan is to address both near and long term initiatives, and is to be developed and implemented with the active participation of providers and users of open source information. Overall, our objective will be the creation of an Open Source Information Exchange (OSIX), that will constitute the medium for achieving the programmatic goals of "(a) improving cooperation and cohesiveness among providers and users of open source materials; and (b) allowing the individual analyst more direct and convenient access to open source products as well as the capability to integrate open source with classified information."

2. To structure this development effort operationally, we propose establishment of two organizational elements within the IHC framework: an Open Source Information Council (OSIC) and an OSIX Development Group (OSIX-DG). The primary mission of the Council will be to serve as the central forum for user-provider interaction, for developing OSIX service requirements, and for conducting a continuing dialogue between the Intelligence Community and academic, commercial, and governmental sources of open source information. The OSIX-DG will be significantly smaller than the OSIC, and will focus on system planning and implementation aspects of OSIX development, as concerns information handling. Core membership of the DG will comprise FBIS, FTD, CIA, DIA, NSA, and the COINS PMO, with other organizations coopted as required for specific OSIX subelements.

3. The report of the Open Source Action Group (OSAG) conveys the complexity of our task, in terms of the many sources, services, users and existing information handling facilities that will play a role in the OSIX. Given current fiscal trends, it seems clear that the cost of OSIX implementation, as projected in the report, could be considered prohibitive and result in erosion of senior management support. As an important early requirement, therefore, we will need to define realistically the OSIX to be

**SUBJECT: Developing the Open Source Information Exchange (OSIX)**

developed, making maximum use of existing capabilities and emphasizing near term improvements that can spur greater investment in OSIX over the extended term. Two exploratory initiatives in this area are now under way.

4. You are invited to an initial meeting of the OSIC to be held at 1500 hours on 3 September 1986 at [redacted]

Please confirm your intended participation to [redacted]

Chairman

OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION COUNCIL

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[REDACTED]

Director, CIA/Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS)

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[REDACTED]

Director, CIA/Office of Information Resources

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